

BAKEWELL
Rural District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE
RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT,

For the Year 1919,

BY

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Medical Officer of Health.

Printed by Order of the Council,

ALFRED HAWES,

Clerk.

DAGNALL, BAKEWELL,

February 21st, 1920.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Bakewell
Rural District Council.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1919 to your Council. I am required to enter into more detail in this than in previous Annual Reports I have presented, and some of that detail will be of matters which are well known to you, but one has to bear in mind the fact that these Annual Reports are also for the information of Boards whose local knowledge is not so minute as that of the members of local Councils.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

POPULATION.—The population of the District at the Census 1911 was 20,258, and upon that basis I estimate the population to the middle of 1919 to be 21,750.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.—With so large an area, in a portion of England where the scenery is so varied, the physical features of the District comprise almost every variety. Geologically the district may be said to present two divisions, a portion in which mountain limestone is predominant, this portion being more or less mountainous, and not very wooded; the other portion being mainly composed of gritstones and shales, a region which is more tree clad.

The social conditions met with are of course varied, and although poverty does exist, one does not meet with those cases of dire need which occur in some districts and more especially in the large towns. The occupations of the inhabitants are agricultural; quarrying for limestone for various purposes including the manufacture of lime; quarrying for gritstone; boot and shoe making; weaving of cotton and silk, and certain other industries carried on in a lesser way. The chief occupation is, however, that of Dairy Farming, a considerable quantity of milk being produced in the district.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER.—The most comprehensive water scheme in the District is the Stoke Flat Scheme which supplies Ashford, Calver, Eyam (a portion), Froggatt, Hassop, Longstone Great, Longstone Little, Rowland and Stoney Middleton. The water is of excellent quality, so pure indeed that it has a solvent action upon lead. In the early months of this source of supply becoming available cases of illness attributed to this cause came under observation, but measures taken, the filtration of the water through lime, have proved effectual, and no case of this character has come under observation during the past years. In the drier months of the year the water has to be conserved by being cut off during certain portions of the twenty-four hours. To obviate this would entail the provision of a very large storage reservoir, and I am of opinion that engineering difficulties would render the provision of such a reservoir a very costly matter indeed. It is not a provision your Council could be asked to consider under present conditions of population, etc.

I propose to refer to Townships the water supply of which for one reason or another should have attention directed to them.

BRADWELL.—An adequate supply of good water is available, but I have had complaints of it failing. The difficulty is I believe that the reservoirs have been placed at an elevation which will not force the water to some houses at the very highest parts of the town, but the number of such houses is small. I understand that there are many defects in the service pipes, and if these were remedied I believe there would be no cause for complaint. It has been very difficult to obtain workmen to undertake these repairs.

EYAM.—The village of Eyam is supplied with water which is collected in stone troughs from which the inhabitants carry it. This is not a satisfactory state of affairs, and it is one your Authority has tried to remove. The Local Government Board held an Enquiry in the Village some sixteen years ago, and considered a scheme for the better water supply of Eyam, but they withheld their consent to a loan.

ELTON.—Elton depends for its supply on a well at the bottom of Well Street, and upon rain-water collected from the roofs of buildings which is stored in tanks. The Village has there.

fore a very inadequate supply, and the character of the water available is not satisfactory, I am of opinion that a combined scheme of water supply for Winstar and Elton would be found the most satisfactory solution of this question. The water is available and both villages could be supplied by gravitation.

LITTON.—I hope the question of water supply for Litton will be satisfactorily solved. It is supplied by water from Tideswell.

WINSTER.—The question of the water supply for Winstar has been before your Council on many occasions, there is much need of improvement, and if taken in hand the deficiencies could be made good. In my Monthly Report to your Council bearing date September 12th, 1919, referring to the question of the water supply for Winstar, I wrote:—"Properly administered Winstar could be adequately supplied, but if matters are allowed to continue as they now are a serious outbreak of Enteric Fever may be anticipated. The need of an adequate supply of Water for Winstar has been more than apparent ever since I had any part in the sanitary administration of this portion of your District, but the question has now become a very acute one, and it is quite time this very pressing need was met. Your Council has been advised to take over the control of the water supply for Winstar, and the only satisfactory solution of the difficulty is that you should do so. If your Council did this there would be enough water not only for Winstar but for the neighbouring Village of Elton, where also, more especially in dry summer months, water is scarce."

I quote this portion of the Report as it sets out my views on the matter.

There are other villages in the District whose water supply is inadequate, but the Villages are small in size. To enable you to determine upon the urgency of the question I have set down the name of the Village with the population at the Census 1901 and 1911, with the number of inhabited houses at the last Census.

BLACKWELL.—Population Census 1901—42. Census 1911—44. Houses—7. Practically Blackwell has no water supply.

FLAGG.—Population Census 1901—176. Census 1911—178. Houses—38. Water drawn by windlass and bucket from old mine workings.

FOOLOW—Population Census 1901—152. Census 1911—141. Houses—36. Water supply from wells which fail in a dry season.

HARTINGTON MIDDLE QUARTER.—Population Census 1901—341. Census 1911—382. Houses—77. Water from surface wells and collected from roofs. The supply for Crowdecote is augmented from the River Dove.

HUCKLOW, LITTLE—Population 1901—120. Census 1911—118. Houses—33. Water supply from surface wells.

MONYASH.—Population Census 1901—402. Census 1911—349. Houses—86. The supply is from two wells and a large open Mere in the village. The wells have not failed, but in dry seasons the quantity of water hardly meets the needs of the District.

SHELDON.—Population Census 1901—120. Census 1911—151. Houses—29. The water is pumped up from Taddington Dale to a service reservoir above the Village. In dry seasons, if the springs usually available fail, water from the River Wye is pumped up. This alternative is not satisfactory.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—The Rivers and Streams in the District being the natural drains of the country receive, as a matter of course, pollution from the Towns and Villages adjacent to them. Where no system of sewage disposal is in being the pollution is the greater. River pollution with more or less crude sewage is most markedly found at Ashford, Calver and Eyam Woodlands. This is only due to the fact that these places are in close contiguity to a River.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—Six of the Townships in the District are provided with sewage disposal schemes, Cromford, Hathersage, Longstone Little, Stoney Middleton, Tideswell and Winster.

As soon as practicable the question of providing sewage disposal schemes for the more populous centres in the District will call for consideration, and the places which will have to be considered in this respect are :—

Eyam ...	...	...	Population Census 1911	1082
Ashford	...	...	" " "	684
Youlgreave	...	...	" " "	1077
Bradwell	...	...	" " "	1033
Calver	...	...	" " "	379
Eyam Woodlands	...	...	" " "	269

I have set these villages down in the order in which the need is the most pressing.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—During the past year it has been a very difficult matter to have conversions from a defective type of closet to a better one made, so that during that period very little has been accomplished in this direction. Lack of labour, lack of material, and last, but by no means least, lack of inclination and the advantage of a tangible excuse, are the contributing causes. As an example of the difficulties to which I refer I will quote from my Monthly Report to your Council dated June 20th, 1919. "My attention has been directed to the inadequate closet accommodation provided for Brampton Cottages, Great Longstone. These three cottages, inhabited by fifteen persons, have but one privy midden provided. The closet has delapidated walls, a make-shift roof, a pervious pit opening into a garden behind, and it is an altogether unsatisfactory provision, both as regards quantity and quality. The remedy called for is the removal of the present structure, including excavation of the already polluted ground, and the erection of three approved closets in the garden. There is ample room for this most necessary improvement."

Could one imagine a case where the need for immediate action on the part of the Owner was more called for, yet in my Report to your Council dated October 10th, 1919, I said:—"Nothing has as yet been done to remedy this defect", and I advised that a Statutory Notice, giving a time within which the work should be carried out, be served. At the date at which this Report is written the extract given above from my Report of June 20th, 1919, still fairly describes the state of affairs.

The approximate number of each type of privy and closet in the District at the close of the year are as follows:—

Old privy midden	...	...	1765
Approved type of privy	...	...	924
Earth Closets	...	...	5
Pail Closets	...	...	959
Water Closets	...	...	580

SCAVENGING.—Scavenging is undertaken in the following seven Townships in the District:—

Beeley.
Bradwell.
Calver.
Cromford.
Eyam.
Hathersage, and
Tideswell.

With the exception of Beeley and Cromford, where the work is undertaken by the owners of the property, the work is done under contract. With the same exceptions the manner in which it is carried out cannot be said to give a complete and satisfactory service. At Bradwell and Tideswell the removal of dry refuse only is undertaken, so that at these places the use of the word scavenging is more than less of a misnomer. At Calver a man is employed to empty privies. I have during the year received complaints of lack of attention on the part of the Scavenger at Eyam, but I hope an improved service will be instituted here, as the person who has done the work in the past is giving up the occupation of Farming, and intends to devote his time to the work.

There is only one way in which a satisfactory system of scavenging can be provided, that is that it should be undertaken not under contract, but by your own workmen under the direct control of your Officers. This has been advocated so long and so repeatedly as the only solution of this question that I have some diffidence in once more advocating it.

In places imperfectly provided with sewage collection and disposal schemes a system of scavenging becomes of prime importance, and I hope your Council will take the question into consideration. Other places in addition to those named above should have this provision made, and amongst them are:—

Ashford.
Birchover.
Monyash.
Stanton, and
Youlgreave.

None of these places are provided with an adequate sewage scheme.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.—The work done under this head is set out in Tabular Form. In addition to this I have made Inspections from time to time in various parts of the District.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1919.

Bakewell Rural (North) Sanitary District.

Name of Inspector—M. MANN.

Area of District—50,399.

Estimated No. of Houses—3,177.

New Houses erected, 1919—Nil.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.

No. of Houses Inspected under Section 17. 2021	No. Unfit for Habitation.	Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders.	Closing Orders Made.	Number Repaired without Closing Order.	Number Repaired after Closing Order made.
Imputed for number of Rooms and number of Occupants.					
Number Closed. Nil.	Number Demolished. Nil.	Number Repaired Voluntarily. Nil.			

	Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Legal Notices Served by Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
DRAINAGE—			
No Disconnection of Waste Pipe ...	5	—	5
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains ...	17	—	17
Drains Obstructed ...	5	—	5

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—

Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits	34	—	34
Additional Closet Accommodation	4	—	4
Conversion of Privies into w.c.'s	—	—	—
Conversion of Pail Closets into w.c.'s	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets	—	—	—

OTHER DEFECTS—

Paving of Courts and Yards ...	1	—	1
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts ...	4	—	4
Urinals Defective ...	1	—	1
Water Supply ...	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations ...	31	—	31
Animals improperly kept ...	—	—	—
Pigsties ...	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances ...	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—
Water in Cellars ...	—	—	—
Foul Condition of Houses ...	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above ...	2	—	2

Totals ... 104 ... 104

	Number on Register.	Inspections Made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	70	45	—	—
Bakehouses ...	32	35	—	—
Slaughterhouses ...	18	20	—	—
Offensive Trades ...	3	8	—	—
Common Lodging-houses ...	2	6	—	—
Totals	125	114	—	—

Infected Rooms Disinfected. Number—19. Method—Formalin Spray producer
Samples submitted for Examination. Water—Nil. Milk—Nil.

Prosecutions, Particulars of—Nil.

Food Seizures—Nil. Food Voluntarily Surrendered—Nil.

Other Action taken—Nil.

(Signed) M. MANN.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1919.

Bakewell Rural (South) Sanitary District.

Name of Inspector—FRANCIS H. MARGERRISON.

Area of District—33.746 Acres.

Estimated No. of Houses—1890.

New Houses Erected, 1919—Nil.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.

No. of Houses Inspected under Section 17. 781.	No. Unfit for Habitation. Nil.	Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders. Nil.	Closing Orders Made. Nil.	Number Repaired without Closing Order. Nil.	Number Repaired after Closing Order made. Nil.
(For Housing Survey.)					
Number Closed. Nil.	Number Demolished. Nil.	Number Repaired Voluntarily. 11	Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Legal Notices Served by Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated with or without Notice.

DRAINAGE—

No Disconnection of Waste Pipe ...	2	...	—	...	2
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains ...	9	...	1	...	16
Drains Obstructed ...	15	...	—	...	15

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—

Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits ...	22	...	1	...	31
Additional Closet Accommodation ...	3	...	—	...	3
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s ...	3	...	—	...	3
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s ...	—	...	—	...	1
Defective Water Closets ...	4	...	—	...	4

OTHER DEFECTS—

Paving of Courts and Yards ...	—	...	—	...	—
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts ...	3	...	—	...	3
Urinals Defective ...	—	...	—	...	—
Water Supply ...	3	...	—	...	3
Offensive Accumulations ...	94	...	—	...	94
Animals improperly kept ...	—	...	—	...	—
Pigsties ...	—	...	—	...	—
Smoke Nuisances ...	—	...	—	...	—
Overcrowding ...	—	...	—	...	9
Water in Cellars ...	—	...	—	...	—
Foul Condition of Houses ...	—	...	—	...	—
Nuisances not specified above ...	—	...	—	...	—
Totals ...	158		2		184

	Number on Register.	Inspections Made.	Notices Served	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops ...	91	94	20	20
Bakehouses ...	6	14	5	5
Slaughterhouses ...	15	37	—	—
Offensive Trades ...	—	—	—	—
Common Lodging-houses ...	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	112	145	25	25

Infected Rooms Disinfected. Number 12. Method—Formaldehydi Spray.
Samples submitted for Examination. Water—Nil. Milk—Nil.

Prosecutions, Particulars of—Nil.

Food Seizures—Nil. Food Voluntarily Surrendered—Nil.

Other Action taken—Nil.

(Signed) FRANCIS H. MARGERRISON.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1919.

Bakewell Rural (South) Sanitary District.

Name of Inspector—T. W. MAWER, Acting Inspector of Nuisances,
up to March 31st, 1919.

Area of District—33,746 acres. Estimated No. of Houses—1916.

New Houses erected 1919—Nil.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.—Nil.

	Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Legal Notices Served by Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
DRAINAGE—			
No Disconnection of Waste Pipe ...	1	—	1
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains	19	—	21
Drains Obstructed	22	—	22
CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—			
Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits	5	—	6
Additional Closet Accommodation...	—	—	—
Conversion of Privies into w.c.'s ...	—	—	—
Conversion of Pail Closets into w.c.'s	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets	1	—	1
OTHER DEFECTS—			
Paving of Courts and Yards...	—	—	—
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts	4	—	4
Urinals Defective	1	—	1
Water Supply	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations	42	—	42
Animals improperly kept	—	—	—
Pigsties	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—
Water in Cellars	—	—	—
Foul Condition of Houses	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above ...	—	—	—
Totals ...	95	—	98

	Number on Register.	Inspections Made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated withor without Notice
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	92	41	8	8
Bakehouses	6	6	—	—
Slaughterhouses	14	14	1	1
Offensive Trades	1	2	—	—
Common Lodging-houses	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	113	63	9	9

Infected Rooms Disinfected. Number—1. Method—Formaldehydi Spray.
Samples submitted for Examination. Water—0. Milk—0.

Prosecutions, Particulars of—0.

Food Seizures—0. Food Voluntarily Surrendered—0. Other Action taken—0

(Signed) T. W. MAWER,

31st January, 1920.

Acting Inspector of Nuisances.
Up to March 31st, 1919.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

1.—COMMON LODGING HOUSES.—There are two Common Lodging Houses in the District, both at Stoney Middleton. They have been visited periodically, but I have had no reason to complain of the manner in which they have been conducted. As your Council are well aware one at least of these is in a building ill adapted for the purpose, but having been registered as a Common Lodging House in the past it would appear that you have little or no power to refuse to re-register it when this is applied for.

2.—SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—There are thirty-three slaughter houses on the Register, and the Inspectors have made seventy-one visits of inspection to these places. Many of the slaughter houses have been adapted from premises which were originally intended for other purposes. In a large scattered Rural District, including sparsely populated areas, it is impossible to provide satisfactory Abattoirs everywhere, but there is no reason why public Abattoirs should not be provided at various points in the District where animals could be taken for slaughter, and meat dressed under more efficient control than is at present possible.

3.—BAKE-HOUSES.—There are thirty-eight bake-houses in the District. Only five minor defects were observed when inspected and in every instance these were remedied.

4.—DAIRIES, COW SHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.—One hundred and sixty-two are registered in the District. This being a District in which Dairy Farming is a staple industry a considerable quantity of milk is produced. Much of it is sent to the large Towns, as Manchester and Sheffield, and a considerable proportion, especially in the north eastern part of the District, is collected and used by a large Firm of manufacturers of a well known condensed milk.

5.—OFFENSIVE TRADES.—Four Offensive Trades are carried on in the District, at Flagg, Great Longstone, Monyash and Wardlow. In each instance the Trade carried on being that of a Fell Monger.

No foods have been seized as unfit for human consumption.

In the afternoon of January 3rd, 1919, I had notice from the Acting Sanitary Inspector that a complaint had been made to him that certain meat in a Knacker's slaughter-house at Flagg was intended

for human consumption "Two hind quarters of beef" were referred to in the complaint. I visited this slaughter-house the same afternoon and satisfied myself first, that the "beef" referred to was horse-flesh, and secondly, that it was obviously not intended for human consumption.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

SCARLET FEVER.—Twenty-three cases of Scarlet Fever were notified to me during the year. In five of the cases the patients either were ill when they came into the District or became so so soon after as to make it certain that they had brought the infection with them. Five of the cases were removed to Hospital, four to the Whitworth Hospital, Darley Dale, and one to Lodge Moor, Sheffield. The distribution of the cases was as follows :—

Haddon, Over	...	6	Removed to Hospital	...	1	
Hassop	...	1	„	„	...	1
Hathersage	...	2	„	„	...	1
Longstone, Great		3				
Nether Padley	...	1				
Rowland	...	1				
Rowsley	...	1				
Sheldon	...	1	„	„	...	1
Stoney Middleton		1	„	„	...	1
Youlgreave	...	6				

The most troublesome outbreak was that at Over Haddon. I found three children desquamating freely in two families, who had been attending School, and it is probable that the infection was kept going by an undetected case going about. The type of disease was mild in most instances, and no death was certified as due to this cause.

DIPHTHERIA.—Twelve cases of Diphtheria were reported. There distribution was as follows :—

Bradwell	...	1
Calver	...	1
Eyam	...	1
Hathersage	...	2
Monyash	...	1
Tansley	...	1
Youlgreave	...	5

With the exception of the outbreak at Youlgreave only one house in each of the other Districts affected was attacked, the infection in each instance having been brought into the District. At Hathersage two cases were reported, but of these one was a boy who had returned home from School, and at which School I ascertained Diphtheria had occurred. I suggested that this boy should be examined bacteriologically when diphtheria bacilli were found in his nose, and although he was not actually suffering from Diphtheria he was, I believe, properly made the subject of notification so that I was able to control his movements until he was certified to be bacteriologically free from infection.

Five cases of Diphtheria occurred at Youlgreave. Whilst making the routine examination of the children attending the School at Youlgreave on November 13th I found one of them had a nasal discharge suspiciously like Diphtheria. The examination of a swab proved that my suspicion was well founded. The child was isolated and placed under treatment. On November 18th the first cases of Diphtheria, two in number, were notified, followed by one each on November 27th, December 3rd and 4th. The Schools were kept under observation and on November 27th finding many of the children suffering from catarrhal troubles I advised that the Schools should be closed until after the Christmas Holidays. I believe we had at Youlgreave two outbreaks about the same time, the cases notified on December 3rd and 4th having no connection with the other School cases. These patients came from Derby on November 24th, one of them, a child, began to show signs of illness on or before November 28th. The other patient, the child's mother, was certified to be suffering from Diphtheria two days after the child had been notified. The child had never attended School, or come into contact with children from School.

No deaths were reported as due to Diphtheria, and no cases were removed to Hospital. Two at least of the cases applied for Hospital Treatment but there is none available for this disease in the District.

ENTERIC FEVER.—One case of Enteric Fever was reported from Ashford. The patient, a man, had been employed in North Wales. He came home on February 12th having commenced to be ill the previous day. I communicated with the Medical Officer of Health for Carnarvonshire, in which district he had resided, but after an exhaustive enquiry no source of infection could be traced, no case

or cases having occurred in the locality he had lived in. I am not aware that the diagnosis of this case was confirmed by an examination of the patient's blood. Happily the man recovered, and no other cases developed.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—One case was notified and, I regret to have to record, terminated fatally. The patient had being delivered of a still born macerated child, and I believe infection was autogenous. Every precaution was taken.

ERYSIPELAS.—Five cases of Erysipelas were notified. They were distributed over the District, and occurred at various times throughout the Year. In each case an examination of the local surroundings was made.

MALARIA.—The six cases of Malaria occurred amongst soldiers who had returned from active service from districts abroad in which Malaria is endemic. In each case they were recurrent attacks.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS.—One case of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis was notified. The patient, a female, lived at Stoney Middleton. The Notification came to me from the Medical Officer of Health for Sheffield on January 18th. The Certificate dated January 4th, had been received by him on January 15th. I went to Stoney Middleton the same day I received the Notification and ascertained that the patient began to be ill in the second or third week of November 1918. The illness was regarded as one of Influenza. On December 28th a Consultant from Sheffield saw the case and advised her removal to the Royal Hospital in that City, where she went the same day. A bacteriological examination of the cerebro-spinal fluid was made and a positive report was sent on January 4th. The patient had not been away from home for nine months prior to the onset of her illness, and I was unable to obtain any history of any contact with any outside places. The patient recovered but is now absolutely deaf.

DYSENTRY.—Two cases of Dysentery were reported, both in August. One occurred at Edensor the other at Froggatt. The first case was reported from Edensor and on visiting the house of the patient I ascertained that he had contracted his illness in Egypt, whilst on active service. The man had gone to work. I advised isolation, and gave written instructions as to the means to be adopted to prevent the spread of infection.

The other case was a returned soldier who had his first attack in Southern Italy in November 1917. His present attack began whilst at work in Sheffield on August 24th, and he came home to Froggatt the same day. In this case also I gave written instructions.

POLIO-MYELITIS.—One case of Polio-myelitis was reported as having occurred at Hathersage. The patient, a child aged three, began to be ill on September 26th. I could not define the source of infection in this case. She recovered but with loss of power in the legs.

PNEUMONIA.—Twenty cases of Pneumonia were notified, and one cannot help thinking that this number fell far short of the actual number of cases which did occur. The first case was notified on March 6th, and between that date and April 14th fourteen cases were reported. Experience shows that Pneumonia Mortality has its maximum in December, and is high from November to April. Only one case was notified in November and one in December, the months of high pneumonia mortality. Twenty-two deaths were attributed to Pneumonia during 1919, of these four occurred during December, a month in which only one case was notified, a case which recovered. I cannot account for this disregard of the obligation to notify cases in the District.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—Two cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were reported, one in November and one in December, both at Bradwell. Another case occurred at Eyam in January, but it was never notified to me. It had been reported to the Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Act, but it was not until April that I heard of it, and then only casually. I understand that this case was a severe one, and was taken to a Hospital for treatment.

MEASLES.—One hundred and thirty-eight cases of Measles and twenty-nine of German Measles were notified. Measles were most prevalent during the last four months of the year. The two features of this epidemic which were most noticable were that the type was a severe one, and that an unusual number of persons past the age of childhood were attacked. It was in these that the type was in many instances a very severe one.

No deaths were attributed to Measles.

TUBERCULAR DISEASE.—Forty-one cases of Tubercular Disease were notified. Of these twenty-nine were cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Of the total number there were twenty-one males and and twenty females, and amongst the cases of pulmonary tuberculosis fourteen were males and fifteen females.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

At the request of your Council I drew up a Report, dated June 21st, 1919, in which I formulated a scheme for the provision of Midwives in your District. I advocated the provision of Home Helpers as distinct from Midwives to give assistance in the households. I also attended one of your Meetings and conferred with You on the matter.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

STAFF.—The duties of Sanitary Inspectors were carried out in the first portion of the Year by the Road Surveyors, Mr. Mann and Mr. Mawer, and to both of these Officers I am indebted to efficient help at all times freely given. Subsequently the Sanitary Inspector for the Southern portion of the District, Mr. Margerrison, was demobilised and took up his duties, and remained on duty till the close of the Year. Mr. Mawer was appointed whole time Sanitary Inspector for the whole District and took over the duties in the Northern portion in the first instance. The appointment of whole time Sanitary Inspector is a step in the right direction and will make for uniformity in the work. Another important provision is that the Sanitary Inspector shall reside in Bakewell so that he is in immediate touch.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—This remains as before; the provision of six beds for Scarlet Fever only at Whitworth Hospital, Darley Dale, the use of which is jointly shared with six other Sanitary Authorities. There is no provision for cases of other forms of infectious illness, except Small-pox, and during the Year I have felt the need of beds for the Isolation of Diphtheria cases, and Diphtheria "Carriers." Eight beds are provided for Small-pox shared by the six Authorities referred to. Fortunately this has never been required since its provision, and for that reason some persons carp at the fact that it has been provided, forgetting that it stands in the same relation as a policy of Insurance, which no one wants to draw but which proves useful when the need comes for it. Bacteriological work is undertaken free of cost in the Laboratories of the County Council, including examination of material for the detection of tubercle bacilli.

HOUSING.

1.—GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT.—There are approximately five thousand and ninety-three inhabited houses in the District, and of this number four thousand two hundred and fifty are houses for the working classes. No new houses were erected for the working classes during the Year, or were in course of erection.

The Population at the Census 1911 was 20,258, and it is more than probable that the actual number at the next Census will be found about this figure, probably less.

The number of existing houses just about meets the needs of the District, though in this connection two facts have to be kept in view. The first is that a proportion of the existing houses are below the standard of fitness which one would fix as the minimum; and second, in some parts of the District, especially those easily reached from large centres of population outside your District, the demand for houses is greater than the supply. This is however for houses not for present occupiers but for would be occupiers from the large Towns if houses were available. One can see no end to the number of house applicants of this nature.

To meet shortage your Council have formulated a Scheme for the provision of houses in various parts of the District. The Schemes are in various stages, some so far advanced that the Deeds of Conveyance of land for the purpose of building sites are almost complete.

The number of houses proposed and the Parishes interested are as follows :—

Ashford	...	...	6 houses.
Beeley	...	...	4 "
Bradwell	...	...	12 "
Cromford	...	...	8 "
Eyam	...	...	10 "
Eyam Woodlands	...	...	12 "
Hathersage	...	...	12 "
Litton	...	...	4 "
Stanton-in-Peak	...	...	6 "
Stoney Middleton	...	...	6 "
Tideswell	...	...	20 "
Youlgreave	...	...	12 "
Total			112 "

2.—OVERCROWDING.—Several cases of overcrowding in consequence of large families occupying small houses have come under observation. Two such cases were reported at Pillough in February but in each instance it was found possible to ameliorate the condition.

3.—FITNESS OF HOUSES.—The general standard of housing in the District varies. In some parts it is distinctly good, as at Edensor, in others it is distinctly bad, as for example, some of the property at Calver.

The general character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses are :—

(i)—DAMPNESS.—This is the defect most frequently met with, and in many instances it is due to a cause which it is very difficult, or at least very expensive, to remedy, that is the rising of moisture from the ground from lack of a damp course. In the majority of the old houses they were built without this necessary provision. Another cause, which in the more hilly Villages contributes to dampness, is the fact that the houses are built into the ground. This is more easily and cheaply remedied, by the provision of a dry area.

If the standard of dryness of a house is set high, and it certainly should be, there will come the question as to whether the cost of carrying out necessary work to this end will be worth while, and if not worth while then another tumble down ruin will be added to those already existing. There are already houses in ruins in most of the Villages. In October I examined twelve houses at Bradwell which the Bradwell Parish Council suggested might be put into a fit state for human habitation. With exception of three of them all the other property was in a more or less ruinous condition, and I reported that "it would probably be found more expedient to raze them to the ground."

(ii)—DEFICIENT LIGHTING AND VENTILATION.—These defects again are due to misguided efforts which directed the builder of the past. In some instances the windows are too small, the roofs of the houses coming so near the floor as leave but little room for window space. This is most obvious in the bedrooms.

(iii)—The sink too is frequently at fault. It may be from its position, in the living-room, or from the condition of the pipe leading from it to the drain outside. Efforts in the past have lead to many of these sink pipes being disconnected, and made to discharge in the

open air over a grate, but the drain into which they do discharge is too often but a rubble one, which leaks into and fouls the sub-soil. In those places which are provided with a proper sewage disposal scheme one can advise with a clear conscience that such a rubble house drain should be replaced by a proper sanitary pipe drain, connected with the sewer, but where no proper sewage scheme is in existence it is not a satisfactory matter to urge that a defective rubble house drain leading to an equally defective rubble sewer should be so replaced by a sanitary pipe drain.

(iv)—The closet accommodation is frequently inadequate. In another part of this Report I have estimated that there exist approximately 1765 of the old privy middens, that is 1765 nuisances or potential nuisances. It is not too much to ask that each house should have its own closet provided, and that the type of closet should be of the best kind adapted to that particular locality.

When defects are found the procedure has been to first serve Informal Notices. If the defects are not remedied the matter is reported to the Council who give an authority for the issue of a Statutory Notice. All Notices should be Statutory Notices. The arrival of an "In-Formal Notice" gives the impression that the matter is not one of much moment, and a wrong impression at the commencement of anything is one difficult to eradicate.

4.—UNHEALTHY AREAS.—There are no areas which can be described as unhealthy.

VITAL STATISTICS.

DEATHS.—The total number of deaths Registered as occurring within the District during the Year were 227, of these 113 were males and 114 females. This is equivalent to a death rate of 10·4 per 1000 of the estimated population. I have accepted for statistical purposes the deaths of 23 persons, who belonged to the District but died elsewhere, and I have deleted three deaths, of persons who died in the District but whose residence was elsewhere. Thus we arrive at the figure of 247 as representing the total number of deaths of persons belonging to the District. This gives a death rate of 11·3 per 1000 of the estimated Population.

Nineteen deaths were attributed to Influenza, seven in February, six in March, five in April, and one in July. The case which occurred in July was an old lady eighty years of age. In this month Influenza was not prevalent.

Twenty-three deaths occurred from cancerous disease.

The Zymotic Death-rate was nil.

Fourteen deaths occurred amongst children under one year of age, twelve being males and two females. This is equivalent to an Infantile Mortality of 51·4 per 1000 Registered Births. In estimating the Infantile Mortality I maintain that the true figure is only reached after deducting the deaths of children who have died from causes which are probably not preventible so far as the child is concerned. That is deaths due to Premature Birth and Congenital Defects. I find that seven such deaths occurred so that if these are deducted we have an Infantile Mortality of 25·7 per 1000 of the Registered Births.

BIRTHS. —Two hundred and seventy-two births were Registered during 1919, 136 males and 136 females. Of this number seven boys and five girls, a total of twelve were Illegitimate. The total births are equivalent to a Birth Rate of 12·5 per 1000 of the estimated population.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS FENTEM.

